DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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Authority: EO 13526
DIA FOIA & Declassification Services Offices
Date: *Oct 17, 2018*

VZCZCMAY477 ~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ ZYUW
MULT 56777
ACTION
DIA:
DISTR
IADB(01) J5(02) J3:NMCC SECDEF(07) SECDEF: ASD:ISA(13)
ATSD:AE(01) ASD:PA&E(01) :DIA(20) NMIC NIDS
- CMC CC WASHINGTON DC
- CSAF WASHINGTON DC
- CNO WASHINGTON DC
- CSA WASHINGTON DC
- CIA WASHINGTON DC
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~~NOFORN IMMEDIATE~~

TRANSIT/2712146/2712204/000:18TOR2712159
DE RUESBAA #0208 2712146
ZNY ~~CCCCC~~
O P 282145Z SEP 79
FM (b)(3):10 USC 424
TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC/DB-3E1//IMMEDIATE
INFO RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ//SCJ2-AD//
RUEADWD/HQDA WASHDC//DAMI-FII//
RUEAHQHA/HQ USAF WASHDC//XOXXWXX
(b)(3):10 USC 424
BT
~~C O N F I D E N T I A L / NOFORN~~ (b)(3):10 USC
SUBJ: THIS IS IR (b)(3):10 USC 424
THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINISHED INTELLIGENCE
1. (U) CONTRY: ARGENTINA (AR)
2. (U) REPORT NUMBER: (b)(3):10 USC 424
3. (U) TITLE: ARMY COMMANDERS LINE UP ON SUCCESSION FOR COMMANDER IN CHIEF
4. (U) PROJECT NUMBER: AB
5. (U) DATE OF INFORMATION: 790619
6. (U) DATE OF REPORT: 790928
7. (U) DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: 790916, BUENOS AIRES
8. (U) REFERENCE: (b)(3):10 USC 424
9. (U) ASSESSMENT:
10. (U) ORIGINATOR: (b)(3):10 USC 424
11. (U) REQUEST EVALUATION: OMIT

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12. (U) PREPARING OFFICER: (b)(3):10 USC 424

13. (U) APPROVING AUTHORITY: (b)(3):10 USC 424

14. (U) SOURCE: (b)(3):10 USC 424

15. (U) ~~SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: DIRC-NO NOFORN TO PRECLUDE RELEASE TO THIRD PARTY COUNTRIES AND TO PROTECT SOURCES AND METHODS.~~

16. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ THIS IR REPORTS THAT THE SENIOR ARGENTINE ARMY GENERALS ARE BEGINNING TO LINE UP IN THEIR POSITIONS WIHT RESPECT TO APPINTMENT OF THE NEW ARMY CINC. THE ELEVEN MAJOR GENERALS APPEAR TO HAVE LINED UP SEVEN TO FOUR IN FAVOR OF GENERAL DE DIVISION (MAJ. GEN.) LEOPOLDO GALTIERI, ENGINEER, CURRENT I CORPS COMMANDER. THE SPLIT APPEARS TO BE A CLASSIC "CAVALVY AGAINST THE OTHERS" BATTLE. THE CONSENSUS OF OPINION OF THE MAJOR GENERALS CARRIES ONSIDERALBE WEIGHT IN THE CONSULTATIVE DECISION MAKING PROCESS, WHICH APPEARS TO BE A TRADEMARK OF THE VIDELA ERA (SEE CITE (b)(3):10 USC 424

22. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ DETAILS: (ALL PARAGRAPHS ARE C/NOFORN) 1. Sec. 3.3(b) (1) Sec. 3.3(b) (1) SOURCE INDICATED THAT THE LINES ARE BEGINNING TO SOLIDIFY AMONG THE ELEVEN MAJOR GENERALS WITH RESPECT TO SUCCESSION TO COMMANDER IN CHIEF AT THE END OF 1979. SOURCE INDICATED THAT THE LINE UP IS TAKING ON A "CAVALRY AGAINST THE OTHERS" HUE, REMINISCENT OF THE "COLORADO-AZUL" (RED-BLUE) PROBLEM OF THE 1960'S.

2. IT APPEARS NOW THAT SEVEN OF THE ELEVEN, INCLUDING THE THREE INFANTRY GENERALS, ARE IN FAVOR OF GALTIERI, AN ENGINEER; AND FOUR--ALL CAVALRY--MEN ARE FOR SUAREZ MASON. THIS LINE UP WOULD PLACE THE FOLLOWING SUPPORTING GALTIERI:

1. URRICARRIET - MIL. ENGINEER
2. RIVEROS- ARTILLERY
3. GALTIERI-COMBAT ENGINEER
4. VAQUERO-INFANTRY
5. MONTES-INFANTRY
6. GALLINO-ARTY.
7. BUSSI-INF.

THE FOLLOWING WOULD LINE UP AS SUAREZ MASON SUPPORTERS:

1. SUAREZ MASON
2. MENENDEZ
3. HARGUINDEGUY
4. JUAREGUI

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3. SOURCE FURTHER INDICATED THAT IF GALTIERI BECAME CINC, MAJ GEN VAQUERO, CURRENT V CORPS COMMANDER, WOULD BECOME CHIEF OF STAFF.

[redacted] COMMENT: ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ NOTE THAT IF GALTIERI BECOMES CINC IT WOULD REQUIRE RETIREMENT OF: (b)(3):10 USC 424

1. URRICARRIET
2. SUAREZ MASON
3. RIVEROS
4. MENENDEZ

THIS RETIREMENT ROLL WOULD REMOVE TWO OF THE SENIOR CAVALRY OFFICERS WHO HAVE GENERALLY BEEN REGARDED AS HARD-LINERS AND THORNS IN THE SIDE OF VIOLA.

8. ~~(C/NOFORN)~~ THE RECENT EVENTS OF THE IAHRC VISIT, THE TIMERMAN RELEASE, THE CAMPORA PROBLEM, AND NOW THE TERRORIST BOMBING OF DR. GUILLERMO KLEIN'S HOME (SEE CITE (b)(3):10 USC 424 COULD CAUSE SWINGS FROM THE GALTIERI SUPPORTERS TO THE RIGHT. Sec. 3.3(b) (1) THE MOST LIKELY TO SHIFT WOULD BE URRRICARRIET AND RIVERSO, WHO WERE SUSPECTED OF HAVING RESISTED VIOLA'S APPOINTMENT AS CINC IN 1978. AMEMBASSY COORDINATED.

~~REVW 28 SEP 1999~~

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